

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and discussion presented herein.

In the office action, the Examiner indicated that Claims 157-160, 162, 164, 165, and 194-196 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Examiner also rejected various other claims.

In response, the claims have been amended as follows:

1. Claim 139 has been amended to include all of the limitations of Claims 149 and 157, and Claims 149 and 157 have been canceled.
2. Claim 150 has been amended to depend from Claim 139.
3. Claim 152 has been amended to depend from Claim 139.
4. Claim 154 has been amended to depend from Claim 139.
5. Claim 158 has been amended to depend from Claim 139.
6. Claim 159 has been amended to depend from Claim 139.
7. Claim 161 has been amended to depend from Claim 139.
8. Claim 162 has been rewritten into independent form to include all of the limitations of Claims 139, 149 and 161 from which it depends.
9. Claim 164 has been rewritten into independent form to include all of the limitations of Claims 139 and 163 from which it depends.
10. Claims 173-190 have been canceled.
11. Claim 191 has been amended to include all of the limitations of Claim 194, and Claim 194 has been canceled.
12. Claims 195 and 196 have been amended to depend from Claim 191.
13. Claim 198 has been canceled.

In view of the above, all pending claims are now in a condition for allowance.

Appl. No.: 10/735,283
Off. Act. Dated: 09/08/2005

This Amendment is being submitted in order to expedite allowance of the currently pending subject matter. However, the Applicants do not acquiesce in the original ground for rejection with respect to the original form of these claims. These amendments have been made without any prejudice, waiver, or estoppel, and without forfeiture or dedication to the public, with respect to the original subject matter of the claims as originally filed or in their form immediately preceding these amendments.

Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request that the various grounds for rejection in the Office Action be reconsidered and withdrawn with respect to the presently amended form of the claims, and that a Notice of Allowance be issued for the present application to pass to issuance.

In the event any further matters remain at issue with respect to the present application, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner please contact the undersigned below at the telephone number indicated in order to discuss such matter prior to the next action on the merits of this application.

Date: 8 June 2009

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "W. A. Gardner".

William A. Gardner
PO Box 3566
Yountville, CA 94599
707-226-9933, Ext. 102